

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. An apparatus for securing a computing device to a location, comprising:
 - a network communication cable having a cut-resistant casing;
 - a first locking mechanism provided at a first end of the network communication cable; and
 - a second locking mechanism provided at a second end of the network communication cable, wherein the network communication cable provides a data communication link with a data network, the first locking mechanism is capable of locking the network communication cable to a structure at the location, and the second locking mechanism is capable of locking the network communication cable to the computing device.
- 20 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network communication cable includes an Ethernet cable having RJ45 connectors at each end of the Ethernet cable.
- 25 3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the RJ45 connectors have a mating piece for engaging with a locking feature of the first locking mechanism and the second locking mechanism.
- 30 4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network communication cable further includes:

a first connector at the first end of network communication cable; and

5 a second connector at the second end of the network communication cable, wherein the first locking mechanism is capable of being secured to the first connector and the second locking mechanism is capable of being secured to the second connector.

10 5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the first locking mechanism and second locking mechanism have locking features for engaging with mating pieces of the first connector and second connector, respectively.

15 6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the locking features and the mating pieces having openings through which a portion of a lock may be passed.

20 7. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the first locking mechanism and the second locking mechanism are locking sheaths that are slidable under a depressible portion of the first connector and the second connector such that when the locking sheath is under the depressible portion of the first connector and the second connector, the depressible portion is no longer depressible to release 25 the first connector and the second connector.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first locking mechanism and the second locking mechanism include locking sheaths having a first end with a first diameter

larger than a second diameter of a second end and being slidable along the network communication cable.

9. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the locking features are surfaces protruding from the locking mechanism wherein the surfaces form a slot into which the mating piece may be slid.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the locking features and the mating pieces have openings through which an arm of a padlock may be passed.

11. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cut-proof casing is a steel cable casing.

15 12. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first locking mechanism and the second locking mechanism include integrated keyed or combination locks.

20 13. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network communication cable further includes:

25 a first connector at the first end of the network communication cable for coupling the network communication cable to a data communication jack of one of the computing device and the structure; and

a second connector at the second end of the network communication cable for coupling the network communication cable to a data communication jack of the other of the computing device and the structure.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the first connector and the second connector are RJ45 connectors and wherein the network communication cable is an Ethernet cable.

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15. An method of making a security cable for securing a portable computing device at a location, comprising:

providing a network communication cable

providing a cut-resistant casing surrounding the

10 network communication cable;

providing a first locking mechanism at a first end of the network communication cable; and

providing a second locking mechanism at a second end of the network communication cable, wherein the network communication cable provides a data communication link with a data network, the first locking mechanism is capable of locking the network communication cable to a structure at the location, and the second locking mechanism is capable of locking the network communication cable to the computing device.

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16. The method of claim 15, wherein the network communication cable includes an Ethernet cable having RJ45 connectors at each end of the Ethernet cable.

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17. The method of claim 15, further including:

providing a first connector at the first end of network communication cable; and

30 providing a second connector at the second end of the network communication cable, wherein the first

locking mechanism is capable of being secured to the first connector and the second locking mechanism is capable of being secured to the second connector.

- 5 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the first locking mechanism and second locking mechanism are provided with locking features for engaging with mating pieces of the first connector and second connector, respectively.
- 10 19. The method of claim 18, wherein the locking features and the mating pieces are provided with openings through which a portion of a lock may be passed.
- 15 20. An apparatus for securing a computing device to a location, comprising:
 - an Ethernet cable having a steel cut-resistant casing;
 - a first locking mechanism provided at a first end of the Ethernet cable; and
- 20 a second locking mechanism provided at a second end of the Ethernet cable, wherein the first locking mechanism and second locking mechanism include:
 - a connector having a depressible portion and a mating piece;
 - 25 a slidable sheath capable of being slid under the depressible portion such that the depressible portion is no longer depressible; and
 - a locking feature having a gap into which the mating piece of the connector may be slid, wherein the locking feature and the mating piece have holes
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through which a portion of a lock may be passed when the holes in the locking feature and the mating piece are aligned.